Lafayette Historical Society
POST OFFICE BOX 133 LAFAYETTE, CALIF. 94549

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President: Chris Schreiber Editor: Martha Gridley

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

The Lafayette Historical Society meeting will be held at 8:00 P.M. Tuesday February 17 at Lafayette School Auditorium. The speaker will be Mr. Jack Lee who will show his color film of the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition. The prize-winning film features scenes from the Calvalcade of the West and Billy Rose's Aquacade, as well as views of well known performers such as Ted Lewis, Jack Benny, Phil Harris and Count Basie. Climaxing the production are dramatic scenes of the raging fire that gutted the California Building.

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ARTIFACTS AND LANDMARKS

We are glad to report that after their remodeling project Lafayette Federal Savings and Loan has again found some space for our exhibits. Alice Breckling Jean Merryman and Angela Broadhead put together the December display called "Lafayette's Big Snow". This featured pictures,from the LHS files, of Lafayette and a collection of mechanical banks and Christmas tree lights from the 1920's.

The current display at Lafayette Federal Savings and Loan is "Valentines of the 1890's--1910". These sentimental and lovely old valentines are from the collections of Mrs. L. Holton, Mrs. W. Merryman and Mr. and Mrs. H. Schreiber. The display, arranged by Mrs. Ronald Baker and Mrs. Merryman will be at the bank until Mid-February.

The Concord Historical Society has a calendar that features 5 landmarks of Concord. The calendar may be purchased for $4 from the Historical Society, Box 404, Concord.

The Lafayette Sun gives us pictures they have taken and are of interest to us for our picture file. Our thanks to them.

Mrs. Guess and Jane Sherman are working on a history of the Happy Valley area. Anyone with any early information of this area please give them a call. Mrs. Sherman's phone number is 283-8146.

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BICENTENNIAL

Our chairman, Lou Repetto, announces that the bicentennial poster from students at Del Valle and Acalanes High Schools will be judged on February 19 at the Lafayette Library. The judges will be the Art critic from the Oakland Tribune, Marie Monahan and a representative from the Palace of Legion of Honor. The winning student and his or her teacher will be awarded a week trip to France.

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118 for LAFAYETTE POST OFFICE!!!

In 1857 Benjamin Shreve applied for a P.O. permit for his Pioneer Store and gave LaFayette as official name of the town. By 1904 there were 11 families who paid a nickel a month for P.O. boxes. Over the past 100 years we have had 6 P.O. buildings and only 8 postmasters, the longest in service being Shreve(41 years), Carrie VanMeter(23 years) and Amelia Schutt(24years).

At this time of crisis in our Postal Service Chris Schreiber and Fern Powell Davis have done a history of the P.O. which will appear in the Lafayette Sun with photos on Friday January 30.

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THIS AND THAT

Friends of the Martinez library is sponsoring an "Art Critique" at the Montecito School in Martinez on Sunday February 29th from 10 A.M. till 4 P.M. Mr. W.F. Haney of Witherspoon Gallerie in Lafayette will verbally appraise your pre-1914 paintings and will give advice on proper framing and hanging. Using a special ultraviolet light he can detect overpainting, previous repairs, fungus growth, and forged signatures.
At the same time, those who wish to do so may register their painting with the Smithsonian as part of its Bicentennial search for pre-World War 1 art in America.
A donation of only $2 for up to 4 paintings is being asked. Montecito School is at the corner of Alhambra Avenue and F Street in Martinez.

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program has asked us to publicize their program. They are interested in people over 60 who have the time and skills or want to develop new skills who will aid them in the many activities this program offers to the community. Reta Hall is anxious to hear from people interested in this program. Her number is 372-4690 and she can answer any questions you might have.

Dorothy Helmick and her family have moved to Princeton, N.J., we'll miss Dorothy and need someone to assume the oral history program that she has been in charge of in the past years. Please contact Chris Schreiber at 284-7538 if you are interested.

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MEMBERSHIP

Betsy Wilcutts, membership chairman, reminds us it is time to renew your membership in LHS. We have an exciting program planned for this bicentennial year.

April 6th is the date for the pot luck at the Legion Hall. Mr. Ken Brown will be the speaker. Mark this date on your calendar, further details in the next newsletter.

Mary McIvor is planning a field trip March 27 to the new museum on Treasure Island. The museum has just opened for this bicentennial year and features the history of the Navy in the Pacific. She is working out arrangements for a tour of another museum on the same day and for bus transportation to the museums.

In these times of inflation our dues are a bargain. Fill in the application below and make checks payable to: Lafayette Historical Society, P.O. Box 133 Lafayette, 94549.

Name_____Ph._____
Last First Spouse

Address_____

Date_____

Classification: (Circle one)	Student	Family	Business	Life
	$2.50	$5.00	$50.00	$100

Special interests? Please check if you can help.

Historic Preservation	Newspaper Clippings
Field Trips	Photographs
Landmarks	Research
Oral History	Typing or clerical help
Community Observer	Phoning